

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-26 (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) An isolated DNA sequence comprising ~~which includes~~ the 5' flanking region of the gymnosperm loblolly pine 4CL1B, ~~containing the lignin promoter region and regulatory elements for gymnosperm lignin biosynthesis~~ as shown in ~~SEQ ID No. 6~~ SEQ ID No. 10.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) An isolated DNA, wherein said DNA includes the promoter region of a gymnosperm 4CL gene involved in syringyl lignin biosynthesis.

30-45. (Canceled)